

### REMARKS

The claims remaining in the present application are Claims 37, 40-45, 46-49, 51, 52, 71, 73-75 and 77-79. Claims 37, 38, 42-45, 49, 71, 75 and 79 are rejected. Claims 39-41, 46-48, 50-52, 72-74 and 76-78 are objected to. Claims 38, 39, 46, 50, 72 and 76 are cancelled herein without prejudice. Claims 37, 40, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 71, 73, 75 and 77 are amended herein. No new matter has been added.

### SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended herein to update the status of the related case mentioned in the specification. Specifically, U. S. patent application serial no. 08/721,698 has issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,926,832.

### ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 39-41, 46-48, 50-52, 72-74 and 76-78 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of their base Claims and any intervening Claims. As a result of the claim amendments added herein in light of the notice of allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully assert that independent Claim 37, amended herein to include the limitations of Claims 38 and 39, Claim 45, amended herein to include the limitations of Claim 46, Claim 49, amended herein to include the limitations of Claim 50, Claim 71, amended

herein to include the limitations of Claim 72, and Claim 75, amended herein to include the limitations of Claim 76, are now in condition for allowance.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 37, 38, 42, 44, 45, 49, 71, 75 and 79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohn et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,901,308 (hereinafter, Cohn) in view of Breternitz, Jr., U.S. Patent No. 5,537,620 (hereinafter, Breternitz). Applicants have herein incorporated the subject matter of Claims 38 and 39 into independent Claim 37, the subject matter of Claim 46 into independent Claim 45, the subject matter of Claim 50 into independent Claim 49, the subject matter of Claim 72 into independent Claim 71, and the subject matter of Claim 76 into independent Claim 75. Claims 39, 46, 50, 72 and 76 were cited as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of its base Claim and any intervening Claims. As a result, Claims 37, 45, 49, 71 and 75 and their respective dependent claims are now allowable over the prior art and a discussion of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection is moot at this time.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 40-42 and 44 now depend from allowable independent Claim 37, Claims 47 and 48 now depend from allowable independent Claim 45, Claims 51 and 52 now depend from allowable independent Claim 49, Claims 73 and 74 now depend from allowable independent Claim 71, and Claims 77-79 now depend from allowable

independent Claim 75. Hence, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 40-42, 44, 47, 48, 51, 52, 73, 74 and 77-79 are now allowable, and a discussion of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection is moot at this time.

Claim 43 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohn in view of Breternitz, and further in view of Moreno, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,918,005 (hereinafter, Moreno). Claim 43 depends on independent Claim 37. Applicants have herein incorporated the subject matter of Claims 38 and 39 into independent Claim 37. Claim 39 was cited as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of its base Claim and any intervening Claims. As a result, Claim 37 and its respective dependent claims are now allowable over the prior art and a discussion of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection is moot at this time. Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claim 43 now depends from allowable independent Claim 37. Hence, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 43 is now allowable, and a discussion of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection is moot at this time.

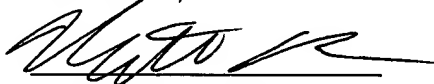
CONCLUSION

Based on the arguments and amendments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 37, 40-45, 46-49, 51, 52, 71, 73-75 and 77-79 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

Should the Examiner have a question regarding the instant amendment and response, the Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

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Respectfully submitted,  
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